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“ persuasive essay “

Mid-term

Nursing shortage

Every year the shortage of nurses in increasing. There are many hospitals, nursing homes, and doctors offices that are being affected by this shortage. The shortage is not only effecting the working community it is also effecting the nurses working in them. You will hear about a few things in this essay. Why nursing is a good career choice, stories that real nurses have gone through, and just what exactly a nurses job is.

A nursing career is filled with endless choices and job opportunities. If you choose to become a nurse you definitely have to have the passion to want to help others using the skills that you will be taught. Nursing is the largest health care profession. There are all different types of nursing that you can choose from. To just name a few: registered nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, nursing homes, home health care nurse, traveling nurses. You can choose to work at many different places: hospitals, doctor’s offices, nursing homes, schools, rehabilitations. There is an endless number of places you can work.

If you choose to work in a hospital there are many different opportunities to move into. Working in a hospital the most rewarding part of becoming a nurse is you being able to make a difference in a lot of peoples lives. You see a lot and deal with a lot. You will see births, deaths, illnesses, and tragedies. You will have to help the patients and there families deal with situations that they are put in. That’s were you make a difference. You can work in many different areas of the hospital: intensive care unit, operating room, post-anesthesia care unit, emergency department, psychiatry, obstetrics, women’s health. Those are just a few to choose from.

In the past couple of years the nursing shortage has taken a toll not only on the work places but the nurses working in them. There are three stories from real nurses that will tell you how the nursing shortage is effecting them and the results that happened because of the shortage. This is Karen Coughlin’s story as a psychiatric nurse in Taunton , Mass: “ four years ago I was astounded, I had been hit, kicked, and spit on. I have had a knife pulled on me. I love what I do and many of the patients I work with, but I hate the working conditions I work in. Three years ago an enraged patient- 6 feet 4 inches and 275 pounds - smacked another patient, bit a health aide, threatened to kill me and lunged forward to strike me. I really thought that my life was in danger. It was probably the most terrified I have been in my 24 years of nursing.”

This is another story from a traveling nurse in Illinois. Her name is Jennifer Zitt a 25 year old, with blond spiky hair and lavender nail polish. She works for Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center : “on a recent morning at the medical center- wearing bright green scrubs - I administered IV antibiotics to one patient and pain medicine to another whose body was rejecting a kidney transplant. Down the hall I tended to a 73 year old recovering from a heart bypass operation. I was in charge of checking the 73 year olds lungs and breathing exercises. The old man would tease me and ask me if he was going to live? And I responded with a smile on my face “ yeah I think so, at least for the next 20 minutes or so” and the old man would laugh. “

This is a tragedy story. This is what happened and the cause of nursing shortage in nursing homes. This is the story of a nursing home nurse that was the only one of duty on night. “I am often the only nurse on the floor, we are understaffed and we are burning out, we do to many things at one time. I have no time to speak to the residents. “ one night a resident called me in, she grabbed my arm and asked me to told her. I gently removed her hand and explained that I had 16 residents to care for and could just stay with her. She died that next day. All she wanted was someone to be with her. I felt terrible.” those are all real stories and the effect that the shortage is taking on nurses and patients.

Everyone probably wonders what a nurses job on a daily day consists of. There are many different things that nurses do, depending on what field of nursing you choose to go into. A few things that nurses do is: take care of patients ( sick or injured ), administer medicine, give emotional support, help with x-rays-exams-surgery, lab work , office work, treat wounds by applying dressing to them. They start iv placements, draw blood, monitoring and tracking vital signs. Nurses are a big part of the medical world and with out them we probably would not get treatment or help.

Its plain to see that nursing is a great career choice. It comes with a lot of opportunities and a great deal of caring. There is such a high demand for nurses as you can read from this essay. So when you are thinking of career choice and if nursing is a good one for you, just think about all of what you read. Nursing is a big career and you can make a change in peoples lives every day. If that is something that you love and want to do then, yes nursing is that right career choice for you.